



ARENA REPORT



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Welcome to another packed issue of "AR". It's getting harder and harder to put this sheet together as I have so much material, I can't sit down and put the thing together without getting a headache. I want to first apologize to K.C. O'Connor for bumping his live Clash report in this issue. Klon was to do one but got caught in some massive rainstorm in the mountains of Georgia and never made it to Knoxville. K.C. offered to sub which looked good until I tried to piece everything together and I just had to hold off on something. It will appear next issue and since it will be a live perspective, it won't be outdated. In this issue we will lead off with "Birth of the I.W.F." which is the new wrestling promotion run by Eddie Mansfield. I'm sure you'll find it a good read. Scott Hudson, the newly married man has a different style in this issue's "Georgia Wrestling Journal" which you'll enjoy. Even though Klon couldn't give us a live Clash report, he did make it home from vacation to give us his opinions on the mat scene from under his mushroom. Marianne is back from her Illinois swing to give us some tidbits on what she found out in the parking lots. And Dr. Mike Lano sent a segment of his prescription pad for us to look at. Lano sends so much material, I could do a whole sheet just with his stuff. I wrote some thoughts on the Clash in my "Clash Chatter" column. Since the show was two weeks ago, I won't go into match by match blow since you've all read the reviews 5 times already from the other eds. Ramblings results, and letters round out this ish.

Next issue of "AR" will be dated 7/8 and will cover a live report from Orlando Arena and the WWF who are in town on 6/29. Scott will hopefully look in depth at the Omni card which is skedded for 6/23. (Hasn't happened as I type this but will be history when you are reading it.) Evan Ginzburg and Mike Terry will be along with their respective columns and we've received Marianne Ryan's columnist profile which we'll run then as well.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. All renewals, letters, results, etc. may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795. A label on your envelope indicates how many issues you have left on your sub.

Before we get into "Birth of the I.W.F." I'd like to get some things out in the open. To all my regular readers out there I'd like to say that even though I have future endeavors planned with the IWF, I will not make them my personal PWA. (Sorry Wade.) It's always been a dream of mine to work closer with a wrestling organization. I will get that chance here but I will not sacrifice this sheet to do so. To the boys in the IWF: I'll be closing out my third year in October in doing this newsletter. I've earned my niche in the industry and I have my credibility. In reviewing any shows, I will call a spade a spade, and I'll tell it like I see it. Your first show was a tremendous success and there is nothing more I'd like to see than the IWF make their mark in the wrestling world. I'll back you guys 110% but don't ask me to shill.

BIRTH OF THE I.W.F.

One key insider told me last week, "I think it's ironic that a guy who "exposed the business" 6 years ago is now trying to run a wrestling promotion." Whether you agree or disagree with that point or not is moot. But Eddie Mansfield did launch the International Wrestling Federation on June 15th with a four hour TV taping at Universal Studios. Unlike the bomb that Herb Abrams dropped on Universal a few months ago, this event was a great success.

The tapings were done in a sound studio which was set up for a capacity of 600 fans. One of the key moves was having the four shows split up like an attraction at one of these theme parks with shows at 11:00, 1:30, 3:00, and 4:30. Once one show was over, they ushered the fans out and got ready for the next one. A different crowd for every show. And they packed the studio with 600 for each taping with people left waiting outside to get in. And the crowds for each show were hot. Another key move was announcing to the fans, many of whom never saw wrestling before, the heels and the babies before each

taping. Ring announcer Chris Qualmann did a great job of pumping up the crowd before the shooting would start. He'd announce all the heels and they would take a stroll around the ring to the boos and catcalls of the fans. After they went back to the dressing room, the faces were introed and the fans cheered. Thus, the promotion had the right reactions for the wrestlers once the taping began. Something the WWF and WCW couldn't do but since this was Universal, it was acceptable in an entertainment environment.

Mansfield's plan is to build his own stars. Tough to do in this day and age of wrestling. Believe me, he has the talent with his stable and he also has a great wrestling mind. It'll be a tough road to hoe. But he's cleared his first major hurdle and that is inking TV time which is a coup for anyone trying to get wrestling on TV these days. I believe his tie in with Universal was the key in securing that time. The IWF starts on the Sunshine Network on 7/5. Sunshine is a sports oriented cable channel that is seen throughout Florida. Eddie has also inked TV time with Home Team Sports in Texas and Prime Network in California.

Now let's take a look at some of the stars of the IWF with comments on the tapings included. Mondo Kleen: The IWF Heavyweight Champion. Some of you will recognize his name from working with Johnny Rodz's group up in the north-east and most recently with the IWCCW. Mondo is a muscular guy who has a tuft of hair. Most of the bout on the tapings were competitive but Mondo had three squashes which is the right way to use him. Get him over as your champ and don't let anyone touch him for a while. He's a decent worker but needs to get more heat from the crowd when he comes to the ring.....IWF Tag Team Champions: The Heartbreakers. Big Till (Jimmy Rogers) & Mr. Terrific (Tim Parker) managed by Champagne Cain. You wouldn't recognize Powerhouse Parker if you saw him. He now has jet black hair slicked back like Bret Hart. A solid team. Rogers has improved immensely since I saw him working for Jerry Grey in '89. A big man who reminds me of Jumbo Berretta. Has a devastating compact legdrop which looks much better than the usual one. Parker is one of three other examples in this group. A guy who has jobbed for one of the big two who was never allowed to show their talent. Quick, agile, and exciting to watch. Their match with the Dynamite Express in the first hour was the best on that taping. Manager Cain looks the part of a good manager but needs to work on his ringside antics. His kicks to foes make him look like he's dancing. Give them the boot Cain!.....IWF TV Champion: Cliff Anderson. Another example of a jobber not allowed to show their stuff. Better known (At this point.) as Cliff Sheats. Great potential. Getting the Anderson persona down to a tee. Could pass for Arn's twin brother. His opening match with Rockin Randy Rhodes was solid. One of the best guys in the fed on the stick.....The Repo Man known to us as Nasty Ned Brady. One of the better gimmicks in the federation as he repossess foes after a victory. I don't have to convince many of you of his workrate. About 30 of you saw him in that great match in Tampa with Raul Mata. Managed by Nasty Ronnie who does great work at ringside and can take a mean bump when called upon.....Thunder & Lightning. These two got it all. Wrestled their first pro match at Universal and looked like 3 year pros. Charisma oozes out of these two. They walk out to an arena and the place goes nuts. Are involved in THE feud of the IWF with Heartbreakers.Incredible Thor: If this was the WWF, he'd be your Hulk Hogan. Most physically defined grappler in the fed. Has the superstar look but needs work. Was used wisely in the tapings as his bouts didn't last more than a couple minutes. Has a great attitude towards improving and in time the promotion could be built around him.....Bad Boys: These guys earned a job two weeks before the tapings as they showed up to Mansfield's school and Eddie put them in the ring for a tryout vs. Rhodes and Randy Fuller. The match was better than any of the taping bouts. These boys wanted a job. They got it. Remind me of the Nasty Boys with more potential.....Chubby M.C.: Wrestled in the Tampa area as Full Force. A big guy that talks good jive. Will get over with the kids.....The Terminator: The biggest "name" in the fed. I always thought he had more potential than his brother Johnny Ace although Johnny has improved tremendously but that's another story. Push here will depend on his availability as he has tours upcoming.....Dynamite Express: Randy Fuller & Randy Rhodes. Rhodes has replaced Jimmy Watts who was booted after the first taping. Both are light but you forget that once you watch them work. Rhodes is another example from earlier as he has jobbed as Randy Hunter for Vince.....Lou Perez: A mainstay on the Florida mat scene. Bruce Mitchell's fave wrestler. His body did a complete overhaul from his PWF days. Decent worker but like his brother Al, lacks color.....Hollywood Rick Diamond: Will be getting a DiBiase-like gimmick pushing the Hollywood angle. Gets good heat from ringsiders with his comments. Disagree with his opening taping lost to Thor if he's getting a push....Others included the Nuclear Assassins (your token masked team billed from Three Mile Island. What a hoot!), Master Blaster Al Green, Mr. Everything Dave Johnson, and Dennis Allen who did a great job getting squashed. Could be this group's cult hero ala Lee Scott.

The day before the tapings the group did interviews in front of the attractions at Universal. From the ones I saw mixed in on the first show, my favorites were Lou Perez eating his lunch on a park bench and being disrupted by

the Marx Brothers. It ended with Lou giving one of them a backhand which sent him into the shrubbery. The other was play by play man Kevin Kelley (did some sports announcing in South Florida. Reminds me of a young Tony Schiavone.) interviewing Mondo Kleen in front of Kongfrontation. Kelley was shaking in his boots. It was a howl. Doing the color for Kelley is Mansfield who is referred to as The Continental Lover which as you know was his wrestling moniker as well. Knowing how Mansfield can talk, I wouldn't worry about the color.

Any long range speculation on this group is impossible. Of course, if you look at recent history of small groups trying to make it in this business, it doesn't bode well. But the IWF may have found it's strongest ally in Universal. It could be their niche. The studios were so impressed with the outcome that they want them in their every weekend as an attraction. What will happen for now remains to be seen. Word of the successful show travelled fast and many indy wrestlers contacted Mansfield looking for work including Abdullah the Butcher. Everyone wants to jump on the bandwagon after it leaves the gate.

Another positive for this group is the relationship between employer and employees. This group is a happy bunch. Any ideas they have is met with a lot of thought. Mansfield takes care of his guys and you can just sense that there is nothing but positive vibes in the air.

So congrats to Eddie and his crew for a great debut and much luck in the future. I'd be remiss in not mentioning Eddie's wife Louise who worked her butt off to make this happen as well. And thanks for the meal ticket. Food was great. Food report next issue from John Lanigan. Oh, he wasn't there. See yaaaaaa!

#RAMBLINGS#

So much for the Yellow Dog angle. Even to the marks. At shows this past weekend, when the ref wasn't looking, Pillman would lift up his mask and stick out his tongue at the heels. Is anyone disputing my claim that Dusty is still under Vince's payroll?.....Angel of Death blew out his knee in Greensboro Friday vs. P.U. News.....Can you believe Bobby Eaton is now doing 5 minute jobs for Mr. Hughes. One thing about WCW, when they want to bury someone, no one does it better.....Hulk Hogan pulled off a Toledo card on 6/22 announced as due to injury. Not sure what's up.....Titan is taking it's TV tapings north of the border on 7/8 & 7/9 with tapings in Calgary and Edmonton.....Dark matches for Worcester, MA on 7/29 tapings show is Hogan-Undertaker, Hennig-Warrior, and an eight man with Nasties, Quake, and Mountie vs. Roadies, Jake, and Boss Man.....Look for Slaughter to do the turn at Summer Slam. Will anyone care? Look out for Sheik-Sarge battles pushed second from the top on house shows. Yeeesh.....Check out this main event for the Los Angeles Bash- Flair & Paul E. vs. Luger & Missy. Double yeeesh.....I almost kicked my cat across the floor when I read that Oz, Hughes, and Diamond Stud were going to be pushed to the top of the cards after the Bashes. I hope you have your resume ready Mr. Herd.....We will find out tomorrow (6/24) whether Global will be a go or not. If Max Andrews doesn't have Pedicino's money by 10:00 a.m., the deal will be off and Jarrett will keep the Sportatorium. If this deal falls through, I can't see anyone who would be willing to give Joe another shot. If Global doesn't get ESPN, then ICW is supposedly next in line.....There had been talks between Pedicino and Bill Watts about Watts being the figurehead commissioner. Likely wouldn't happen.....Speaking of Cowboy Bill, he was recently asked if he would take the booker's spot now with WCW and he said not for a million bucks. Doesn't think it's salvagable. Personally, I think the fat lady may sing by the end of the year.....A UIW taping skedded for 6/30 has Tom Brandi, Cactus Jack, and King Kalua.....6/23 in Baltimore City for Goodhart has Landell-Bigelow on top.....Speaking of Landell, he missed a card (ICW) in the Bahamas on 6/15. Two different versions I got, one was that he was robbed in his hotel room and had a stress attack. (Came back to his room and his money in wallet was stolen.) The other version, well, you can take it from there..... Did you hear Roddy Piper on "Superstars" this past weekend. Said he never heard of the Beverly Brothers manager. Gee Roddy, didn't you work on the west coast where John Tolos was a legend? Oh, sorry, you meant you never heard of "Coach".Did you catch the "Examiner's" expose on Hogan in "Oui" magazine. Big deal. If that was Zinger, he'd be proud of that.....Some tabloid stuff of my own, Did you know Brian Blair use to be married to Mike McGuirk?.....Did you know that the deli at the new Titan Tower has sandwiches named after it's wrestlers? What happens when someone leaves? Does the sandwich don a mask?.....During a recent match in the midwest, Iron Sheik went to lock up with Duggan and before they even touched, Sheik fell on his face and rolled out of the ring. A bit too much to drink before the bout. Yeah, his bouts with Slaughter should be hot.....Will hopefully have some Omni news before the ish is out. Some results are scattered in this issue due to myself working on the issue way ahead of time.Anyone interested in getting a copy of Shannon Rose's Pro Wrestling Weekly TV talk show that had myself as co-host, and guests Dave Meltzer, Bruce Mitchell, Scott Hudson, Klon, Jeff Bowdren, and Alex Marvez can send me \$5.00 and a blank tape or \$10.00 and I'll supply the blank. A good chance to match writers with faces. See ya!!!!

SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

W.C.W. PULLS
CONTROVERSIAL
"STOMP" CARD

(ATLANTA, GA) - Bowing to pressure from Georgia All-Star Wrestling authorities, World Championship Wrestling has pulled the much-ballyhooed Ric Flair card (seen at left) from the "STOMP" Collection. When contacted, WCW President Jim Herd commented, "I have no idea what you are talking about! How did you get my number?!"

The Atlanta Journal / The Atlanta Constitution *** Friday, June 7, 1991 C7

TV WATCH By Gerry Yandel

Wrestling has a hold
on ABC sitcom actor

You heard it here first — watching TV wrestling causes brain damage. An example:

Jason Hervey, the big brother on ABC's "The Wonder Years," will be a guest on "The Danger Zone," a World Championship of Wrestling thing hosted by psycho-yuppie Paul E. Dangerously. Mr. Hervey's girlfriend, Missy Hyatt, is a foe of Mr. Dangerously's, and the actor had to be restrained from attacking the wrestling commentator after he insulted Ms. Hyatt. "Hervey thinks we're going to do a friendly little interview," Mr. Dangerously says. "But I have something a little different in mind for him." Find out if it's a head-slam into the turnbuckles at 8:05 p.m. Wednesday on WTBS/Channel 17 (8672386).



Jason Hervey

...and a serious note, if you please,

Risk. Insurance companies hire actuaries at astronomical salaries to determine their risk in writing a policy. We all take a calculated risk getting behind the wheel of our cars every morning. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) has its "at risk" and "risky activity" definitions like any other malady. Correlate these "risky activities" with the lifestyle of professional wrestlers. To be considered at risk for AIDS, you must fall into 1 or more of the following categories:

- 1) *Be sexually active (homo or hetero) with more than one at risk partner in an unsafe manner.*
- 2) *Use intravenous drugs and/or have shared a hyperdermic needle, and/or*
- 3) *Exchange bodily fluids with an HIV+ person.*

There are wrestlers who are something less than sexually responsible (in any way). There are wrestlers who inject anabolic steroids into their bodies on an daily basis. There are wrestlers who spill buckets of blood by their own hands nightly. I am no prude (just ask Ron Lemieux, Mike Gunter, etc). If you want to have unsafe anal intercourse with an HIV+ person who has a heroin needle sticking in his forearm while doing a blade job, just go right ahead. But remember: The greater the risk - the greater the possibility. And, the greater the possibility - the greater the responsibility. I am 100% on the side of wrestlers. I just hope that they use enough common sense to stay around a long time.

BOY WONDER: Bratty Wonder Years brother JASON HERVEY, 19, was at The Doll House in Orlando, Fla., sweet-talking a stripper sitting on his lap. Jason has a girlfriend, MISSY HYATT, 28, but was moaning he was "lonely" and had no steady. When another stripper walked up and said, "Liar! I happen to know you have a girlfriend!" a shouting match erupted and security broke it up.

CREATIVE LEAFING

JUNE 8, 1991 VOLUME 20, NUMBER 02

THE INSIDE
PLAYERJACK
KENNEDY

Hairy fan: Southeast Regional Sales Rep and high priestess of glassware Sande Cochran is a passionate Charlotte Hornets fan, and equally fanatic about professional wrestling. Based out of Charlotte, Sande rarely misses a game in the "Hive" and regularly attends Hawks games when business brings her to our town. Now for the fun part.

Before she hit the road selling, Sande worked in a beauty parlor in the Myers Park section of Charlotte and had a strong following. In fact, one of her main men was none other than the World Champ, Nature Boy Ric Flair. Much to our amazement we found out that Ric's flowing blonde (white) locks were not his natural color. "He would come in at least twice a week and I personally mixed the bleach. He's a wonderful guy — big tipper and always left me free tickets," said the diminutive Cochran.

THE LAST WORD...

Jason Hervey
is the Billy
Mummy of
the '90's

NOTES FROM THE PARKING LOT

by,
Marianne Ryan

About a year ago, I wrote a column about what was wrong with the NWA. A year later, their name may have changed, but their problems haven't. That was evident at last week's Clash of Champions. It was 2½ hours of mindless, needless wrestling with one purpose—to shamelessly promote the upcoming Bash.

To me, Clash serves three purposes: to provide something different for regular fans of World Championship Wrestling, to give new fans a chance to see what WCW is all about, and finally, to promote upcoming events. Lately, all it has been doing is that last one. The past two Clashes took place just after titles had changed hands. Fans did not see those matches. Instead, they were told to watch the syndicated shows to see that. And every other commercial was for the Bash. The Luger-Muta match was even to determine Flair's opponent for the Bash.

If you could overlook the lengthy commercial aspect to the show, there were enough other things going wrong. For starters, Terry Taylor's name was spelled wrong. The computerized man of the 90's spells his name "TERRENCE". WCW spells it "TERRANCE". You would think they would know how to spell their own wrestlers' names. The Steiner's match would have been outstanding, if Scott hadn't missed several moves, and if Rick's headgear hadn't been falling off.

Perhaps I'm nitpicking, but not when it comes to the main event. Even the announcers said this was a match people have waited for. Ric Flair, arguably the greatest wrestler around, taking on Bobby Eaton, TV champ (never mind he had already lost the belt), and one of the top wrestlers in a best two out of three fall match. This could have easily entertained people for 30 minutes or longer. But no, it was over in less than 15 minutes. There was a match on Prime Time between Bret Hart and the Brainiac that lasted about that long. As far as I'm concerned, the fans got cheated.

I shouldn't be too surprised though. At the last house show in Chicago, there were almost as many people backstage as in the arena. The matches were terrible, and the crowd response not much better. About the best thing I can say about the whole thing is that I didn't have to pay for it.

Anyway, many of the WWF wrestlers had a shock when they were recently in Evansville. The match was on a Sunday and everyone had a three hour drive there from Indianapolis. But what made the trip unbearable was the fact that it is impossible to purchase any alcoholic beverage in Indiana on Sundays. One of the guys remarked that this was the first time in 11 years he wasn't able to have a beer after his match. Jim Duggan said he had so much fun doing his guest appearance on "Harry and the Hendersons" that he is now anxiously awaiting his guest spot on the New "Lassie" show. I bet you can hardly wait.

Speaking of waiting, I'm waiting to hear what's going on with Pat Tanaka. He had been taking some time off due to an infection of some sort. However, two of the agents recently spotted Pat and a lady friend leaving for a little vacation.

You may be seeing Sapphire sometime soon. She is hoping to be released from her WWF contract, which runs through December, and then start up with another group. She has had offers from four different groups. In the meantime, she is doing a lot of charity work in St. Louis.

Finally this month, I want to vent my frustrations over what I think is one of the most annoying things I have seen on wrestling shows recently. It is none other than "The Wonder Years'" Jason Hervey. I think it's just grand that he is such a wrestling fan. It's even peachy that he is dating Missy Hyatt. But that still doesn't explain what that smarmy, little runt is doing on WCW shows. Or is it a new policy—anyone who dates Missy gets to be on the show? Just curious.

See you next month.

Boston Garden (WWF)

Boston, MA

June 22, 1991

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Ricky Steamboat pinned Paul Roma with a flying bodypress. in 11:16. 2) Greg Valentine and Jimmy Snuka went to a double count out. Greg played heel. Guess they don't know what to do with him. Time was 8:24. 3) Ted DiBiase & I.R.S. over Roddy Piper & Virgil in 14:49. Virgil had Ted in a sleeper and Sherri gave Rotunda his briefcase which he hit Virgil with. 4) Kerry Von Erich pinned Dino Bravo (back from Puerto Rico, too bad) with a rollup in 9:27. Hercules no showed. 5) Ultimate Warrior beat Undertaker in a body bag match but Callous left Warrior laying after. 6) Bushwhackers over Orient Express in 7:46 as Luke pinned Kato. 7) The Mountie pinned Big Boss Man after he zapped him with his gun in 6:03. 8) Jake Roberts pinned Earthquake when Andre distracted Quake and Jake rolled him up. ATT: 5,000

PLUGS

Doug Hendricks of 21692 T.R. 175, Mount Blanchard, OH 45867 has several 1980's wrestling magazines for sale. Send a A.A.S.E for a free list....John Lanigan of P.O. Box 583, McKeesport, PA 15134 has an extensive tape list with tapes from Japan included. Send a S.A.S.E. for the list.

DOCTORO'S PRESCRIPTION PAD
BY DR. MICHAEL LANO, WRESTLING'S DENTIST

Japanese is just like Spanish in some ways. Seems you can add an "O" to many of the words and you have instant Sushi. I'm not sure about Doctor-o, but I do know "lariato" means crothesrine, as in Stan Hansen's. That should be a relief- a group of West Texas Outlaws called, whatever the HELL (forget this WCW Heck crap) they want to call themselves- and captained by the bad man from Booger, er Border, Texas himself. Definate comedy relief to whatever satanic stuff Virg is letting fellow Floridian pal Kevin Sullivan get away with this time.

In the aftermath of the boring hairsalon controversy of Sid Eudy, "oh God- will he or won't he(jump- er move slowly to Titan, I am ready for some fresh reevaluation of any newspiece. Is this pimply, steroid-freak's movements all we have cared about the last month? Jeez, Louise.

Let's get to some decidedly more important news eval- like how does Dusty Virgil stack up as booker after lo, these last few months. Firstly, from my being with WCW for their stay in Tokyo- even without Dusty there, things look like they're in control. Up to March 22, morale was s t i l l up and the guys were behaving themselves and being orderly- in part, due to taskmaster Barry Windham. Barry may be tough on WCW photographers in the dressing room borrowing Ric Steiner's camera when their's poops out on a ppv- but there is no faulting his professionalism in making a potentially raucous group into a stable cohesive unit. From the press conference to the flight home, Barry was able to get the guys to wherever they had to be in great fashion. When Dusty arrived the p.m. of the day before Tokyo Starcade, he was relaxed and affable. He and Flair seemed to get along, and Jim Herd was great at what he had to do. He bumped and rolled out of the Egg Dome ring when he got thru with his salute and pledges to the crowd just like a worker. I think with the one year contract extension he received after the success of Tokyo Starcade the 21st, he finally feels comfortable in the role. The only beef he and I or Meltzer have is "how did Jim Herd and WCW as a whole absorb what happened over there.? Why was the show a success? Was it due to the desire to see the popular WCW famous names? Was it the match-ups? What?

The success and legit sellout of the Dome for New Japan was because of New Japan. Succinctly put, they know how to promote wrestling properly. Sellouts for the following tour occured despite the 4 pm Saturday show getting bumped 3 weeks in a row for baseball. There is no tv saturation of wrestling there, since AJPW is now on Monday moms at 1:30 AM, and All Japan Women occur perhaps monthly. That's it for tv, except occasional specials gals and guys. As has occured in the past, after Tiger Jeet zingered Choshu Ricki's car(actually Hiroshi Hase- that's Hosss-say, Jimbo Rosso) the windows were replaced and the car went up and down the streets with a loudspeaker telling people they'd better not miss the matches at the dome. The wrestler's theme music also blares out of the car loudspeaker's when they do this-similar to the Japanese militia promoting itself with the tanks replete with loudspeakers going up and down all streets. As has been said infinitely, the wrestling is portrayed seriously and intelligently as sport-so it warrants newspaper and full media coverage. Would anyone take Terry Bollea seriously out there in normal land if he ran for mayor of New York against Dinkins? No way, Jose. But Inoki did, and managed to get a big payola(o) when he pulled out. Kind of like frustrating rudimentary birth control, but without the frustrating. I know, Lano's first sexist remark in the sheets - get it, pullout. But McMahon probably has beaten me to it... hmmm, I give up.

New Paragraph: On the wake of "pick Ric his new gimmick"-(ex/ Ric the Dick(Ric Flair becomes a tv detective- solving clues his opponents leave in how they might best be beat) what on Earth will that dang Vince do with Sid. IRS and undertaker heels certainly proved to be more profitable and creative than a human rooster or Tugboat. Maybe he'll do the "skyscraper" thing right this time- allowing Sid to come to the ring with either the Empire State Bldg top on his head or a helicopter landing strip on his curly noggin. Or- let's go natural- let Sid be the heel baseball jock type who has received an inflated, ridiculous Canseco-like salary. Not too far from the truth for a guy who wrestles like Anabolic W, and hurts people in the process. Did someone really claim Sid watched old tapes of Brody(pre-special Meltzer issue a few months back) to get "psyched." Back to Japan- Onita and All Japan women literally chant and meditate to get totally into "it" and into "character." No drugs here folks. In fact, there is very little drug or alcohol problem in Japan to speak of. Face is something you cherish, guard and protect. And so it is with their wrestling. Did WCW have anything to do with the sellout show of the year? Probably very little, if at all. New Japan simply knows how to promote wrestling, and they could have had that kind of crowd with their own talent. Thank God our hero, Flair, was able to finally perform in front of not only a stratospheric crowd, but one that could appreciate his nuances and skill. And thank God he helped (we'll say it) o u t d r a w poor Vince and Huckster in the same month, in the same danged Egg Dome. And just wait'll the next combined show in Japanuary!!!

*****As always, please pay the receptionist on your way out.

Greensboro Coliseum (WCW)

Greensboro, NC

June 21, 1991

Correspondent: K.C. O'Connor

1) Big Josh buttdropped Dutch Mantell. Dud 2) Tom Zenk & Junkyard Dog over Royal Family when Zenk dropkicked Victory from the top rope. Front Row Section D had a sign with all of Jack's aliases on it. Victory told then they forgot three of them. * 3) Steve Austin hotshotted Tommy Angel. 4) P.N. News spaashed Angel of Death. News blew up as this went over 7:00. Death blew out his knee here as they had to help him to the back. * 5) Mr. Hughes bubbaslammed Bobby Eaton. Irony in that one with Eaton getting pinned with his former bodyguard's hold. Still no respect for Eaton. ** 6) Dustin Rhodes rolled up Black Bart. * 7) Sting beat Stan Hansen via DQ when Nikita came out and hit Sting who bladed. *** 8) Lex Luger beat Nikita Kollof in a russian chain match as he touched all four corners with help from Stung. After, Koloff left both laying. ** Att: 960

PLUGS

Tom Burke and Dan Reilly's new talk show, WRESTLE-Radio is due to start up this Saturday from 12noon-1:00 on 640 WNNZ which is in Springfield, MA. I'm looking for copies of this show on a weekly basis for anyone that can pick it up.

From out of the depths of the time and space continuum, I bring you the only surrealistic wrestling column written by a cosmologist. Yes I'm back but where am I and more importantly where are you ?

It's Monday 12:35 a.m. June 24 , has WCW folded yet? I expect the phone call to float in at any moment now. The pessimism that permeates the newsletter world seems to grow daily. When Turner bought the Crockett group, the story was that Jim Herd came from Pizza Hut. Well I'm of the opinion that this idiot came the Hospital Of The Eternally Wacky. Every time you blink this gabbering twit is blaming someone else for the ever-growing cesspool WCW has become. It's Vince McMahon's fault, it's Ole's fault, and it's the fault of those crummy Kay Fabe sheets and those rotten hardcore fans ! Did Jim Herd base Norman the Lunatic on himself or perhaps some boyfriend he left behind in looney bin ? Jim Cornette was absolutely right, to escape this burning building before the roof caves in. Wow, look at the big stars getting the push - Curtis Hughes, Kevin (duh, who am I this week ?) Nash, and that big pile of charisma, Scott Hall. Those guys will really pack the crowds in, huh ? Has anyone actually looked at the newest manager Lady Blossom (I mean above the chest) ? This woman is the greatest example of rode hard and put up wet I have ever seen. The former Mrs Billy Jack Haynes, former Mrs Chris Adams was probaly hired to give Dusty something to do since he can't be on tv anymore and Missy likes junior high boys. I could go on and on and on but I won't. Wake me up when it's over.

Is Jushin Liger the ultimate example of what wrestling should be or what ? Last year he was willing to do jobs for a prelim or mid-level guy, Naoki Sano and match of the year bouts occured. This year he is doing the same thing with Norio Hanaga. Someday I hope to shake Mr Yamada's hand and thank him for keeping wrestling alive (via video tape) for me.

It was great seeing all the guys at SuperBrawl and meeting Lance Levine, John Hendrick, Jamie Ward and last but certainly not least Dr Mike Lano who is ***** in my book. And I want to thank Bruce Mitchell and Jeff Bowdren the top two writers in the newsletter world for their words and actions in Tampa / St. Pete. It's one thing to be a great writer but to combine that with creativity, insight and guts is something special. Bruce and Jeff are what I strive to be, *like*.

The purple vortex is pulling me by my heels into the murky mist, until I appear again, keep those Japanese tapes running !

 CLASH CHATTER

It's become a common occurrence to see the Freebirds in the opening bout on a PPV or a Clash special. Usually always a good match.....It's hard to watch Brad Armstrong work as a heel. (Even though he's under a hood.)..... Enjoyed the finish of the six man. It was something different anyways..... Didn't WCW learn after their first mistake with Oz? I guess not. And who in the world were those goofs in the front row cheering Oz? It wasn't the "Missing In Action" man Klon was it?.....It also looked like Nash was real hard on Johnny Rich as he looked like he injured his neck.....When did Muta become the #2 contender? Who did he beat to move up the ladder? Just convenient to make a contenders match with Luger of course. More sensible booking..... I never wanted to see more of a shoot than when Paul E. cracked Jason Hervey. If it wasn't a shoot, than give Hervey credit for a great bump.....Did you see that phantom punch that Mr. Hughes layed on Dustin's kidney. Even Jim Ross hesitated on calling that one. A good example of their taping schedule being too confusing: I never did see an actual turn on TV of Ricky Morton before this show. Did I miss it?.....What a mark I am. I actually thought Sting pinning Nikita was the blow off on their feud. More like wishful thinking, they can never do a segment with a fan without an angle. Maybe they were afraid if they asked the kid who his second favourite wrestler was, he'd say Hulk Hogan.....Did Brian Pillman get buried again or what? He got pinned after a kick to the face. Makes him look real tough.....What can I say about the Steiner match. These guys are so awesome I can never find the words to describe them. Kind of ridiculous though to have them win over Hase & Chono on a pin especially when Hase & Sasaki are coming in for a year program in a few months. Hope Steiners can rekindle the fire in Murdoch & Slater. Could be some great brawls.....Bump of the night goes to Muta who went over the corner buckles on the missed handspring elbow without touching the ropes. Ouch.....Did you see the coming attraction segment on Steve Austin? The very last shot of him saw him opening up his robe. Hmmm. What title belt was that around his waist?.....Personally, I popped the biggest when Ricky Morton said to Robert Gibson, "I've waited 10 years to do this." Bammm. The feud is five years too late though. I don't know if anyone will care. But Morton will make a great heel.....Eaton & Flair was good but when I looked at the clock when it started and it was 10:15, I knew they would have to rush. And once again I left the TV on a sour note when Ric used the ropes for leverage to make the pin on the figure four. I know it's too late to give him credibility as champion but when does it end?

 CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER

Kalamazoo Arena (WWF) Kalamazoo, MI
 Correspondent: Marianne Ryan

May 23, 1991

1) Ricky Steamboat over Brooklyn Brawler. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 2) Davey Boy Smith and Curt Hennig went to a time limit draw. ** $\frac{1}{2}$ 3) Hacksaw Duggan speared Col. Mustafa. -** 4) Ted DiBiase downed Roddy Piper. *** 5) Berzerker over Tugboat in a match made in Hell. 6) Earthquake over Jake Roberts via DQ. ** 7) Rockers beat Orient Express. Both teams looked great and action was non-stop. Best match Marianne has seen in a while. ***

Rosemont Horizon (WWF) Rosemont, IL
 Correspondent: Steve Sims

May 31, 1991

1) Col. Mustafa pinned Koko Ware after Koko missed a corner charge and Sheik pinned him. Dud 2) Greg Valentine beat Demolition Smash with the same finish as the first bout. How creative. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 3) Big Boss Man enzuiguiried The Mountie at 7:37. Both tried. ** 4) Davey Boy Smith pinned Berzerker with the same

finish as matches 1 and 2. Have a problem with booking finishes tonight or what? Nord was a sub for Perfect who was hurt. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 5) Earthquake over Jake Roberts via DQ when Jake pulled the snake out of the bag. All the heat was for the DDT. * 6) Marty Jannetty sunset flipped Kato Paul Diamond. Michaels & Tanaka both no showed. Michaels had an injured shoulder. ** $\frac{3}{4}$ 7) Kerry Von Erich and the Warlord were both counted out at 9:58. Ref Mike Figueroa may have missed the finish as Kerry lit into him after. -* 8) Ultimate Warrior beat Undertaker via DQ when Callous used the urn at 10:36. They tried to put Warrior in the bodybag after but he escaped. -** ATT: 13,000

Rockland High School (IWCCW) Rockland, ME June 3, 1991
Correspondent: Steve Dickinson

1) Zap of the Equalizers beat Samson of the Billion Dollar Babies via DQ.
2) Scott Putski pinned the Black Knight. 3) Robbie Ellis defeated The Psycho.
4) Ivan Putski beat Tony Atlas via DQ in a bout for the IWCCWNWAWWF or whatever it is, title. 5) Ray Odyssey retained his lightheavyweight title beating Tasmaniac. 6) Billion Dollar Babied retained their tag titles beating The Equalizers.

Madison Square Garden (WWF) New York, NY June 3, 1991
Correspondent: Elyse Zois

1) Ricky Steamboat used a flying bodypress to beat Demolition Smash. 2) Warlord dropped Koko Ware throat first on the ropes to score the pin in a bout dominated by a five minute bearhug. 3) Col. Mustafa beat Hacksaw Duggan via count out when Jim chased Adnon to the back with the 2x4. 4) Bret Hart pinned Barbarian. Fuji managed Barbie since Heenan has new duties but after bout, Heenan came in and hit Fuji which sets up Orient's vs. Barbie & Haku next month. 5) Jimmy Snuka pinned Bob Bradley. 6) Earthquake over Jake Roberts with the same finish as they have everywhere. 7) Tugboat gave Brooklyn Brawler a splash and pin. 8) The Mountie used his cattle prod to gain a win over Big Boss Man. a Dud. 9) Road Warrior Animal beat Paul Roma. Hawk is out so Roma won a coin toss with Herc to see who would lose to the Roadie. 10) Hulk Hogan beat Sgt. Slaughter with a camel clutch when Adnon threw in the towel. Sarge juiced big time.

Hammond Civic Center (WCW) Hammond, IN June 5, 1991
Correspondent: Steve Sims

1) Black Bart beat Tommy Angel in 17:34 with an over the knee backbreaker. *
2) Steve Austin pinned Tommy Rich after he rammed Rich's head into the mat, rolled him over and pinned him. What a finishing move. ** 3) Junkyard Dog beat Psycho Sam with a headbutt in 3:03. -* 4) Oz pinned Tom Zenk with a spinning side suplex in 11:58. Oz came out alone, with no music or clue and people were laughing at him. -** 5) Young Pistols beat Freebirds Hayes & Armstrong when when Tracy put Steve on top of Hayes. Non-title. ** $\frac{3}{4}$
6) Lex Luger pinned Barry Windham with a backslide in 12:09. Solid action.
*** ATT: 850

Wheeling Civic Center (WWF) Wheeling, WV June 10, 1991
Correspondent: John Lanigan

1) Irwin R. Shyster pinned Greg Valentine with the ropes for leverage at 7:57. Both worked hard. C 2) Berzerker hot shot Koko Ware at 10:00. Nord took a good bump going over the top after a Koko dropkick. C 3) Curt Hennig and Bret Hart went to a 20 minute draw at 18:17. Short time limit draws are John's pet peeve. B- 4) Road Warrior Animal piledrove Jerry Saggs at 9:50. Tons of heat with Knobbs & Jimmy Hart at ringside. C 5) Hulk Hogan pinned Sgt. Slaughter with a schoolboy at a mere 5:18. Worst Hogan bout John has seen. Hulk was upset with the Irrisistable One who told the ref to DQ Hulk for using a chair. After the bout, Hulk came over and called the guy a loser. Must have found out tonight that the "Examiner" was going to print those pics. D 6) Jimmy Snuka beat Demo Smash with a flying bodypress. D 7) Davey Boy Smith sunset flipped Barbarian in 8:31 with the help of Dave Hebner. D+ 8) The Mountie used the cattle prod to defeat Boss Man at 5:29. C ATT: 5,500

Stoney Creek Club (UIW) Pasadena, MD June 15, 1991
Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

1) Warpig pinned Hell Hound #2. F 2) Hangman Harley Watkins over Erotic Adrian Hall. D 3) Rasta the Voodoo Man pinned Corey Roberts. F 4) Axl Rotten over A.J. Fritzoid in an electric city chain match. C+ 5) Sledgehammer McGill small packaged The Surgeon. D 6) Killerhit Kirk Dredd beat Sexy Steve Valentino by DQ when Axl Rotten, Valentino, & A.J. Fritzoid all attacked Dredd. A.J. turned heel and now wants to be called Bad Thing. B 7) Lords of Darkness went to a

no contest in a two out of three fall match with Johnny Stonewall Lawler (plays the illegitimate son of Jerry Lawler) and Bubba Monroe. C ATT: 125

Seminole Mall (Malenko's UWF) Seminole, FL
Correspondent: Shannon Rose

June 15, 1991

1) Rock N' Roll Warrior went to a ten minute draw with Brian Jernigan. 2) The Spartan beat Cody Wade. 3) Big V & The Trooper (not Del Wilkes) over Jim Cooper & Paul Sampson. 4) Chris "The Doctor" Proctor beat Barry Horowitz. 5) Dean Malenko pinned Jumbo Berretta

LETTERS TO "AR"

SuperBrawl

Sounds like you guys had fun in St. Pete. I liked SuperBrawl and thought it was a well rounded card. Although the audio glitches on the PPV left alot to be desired, I did enjoy the event and I'm looking forward to the Baltimore Bash.

I think that the NWA deserves more credit for the 12 matches that all ended in pinfall. Maybe I'm giving too much credit because I was expecting about 2-4 ripoff endings when I got none. So maybe I was expecting too little. I know that most of the major matches had interference. I still think WCW should be commended for 12 pinfalls. The only other PPV I can remember without screw job endings was this years "Royal Rumble" with only 5 matches and the rumble so I hope that the Clash has the same trait of all pinfall endings but I fear it will not come true.

Ron Gallagher
Limestone, ME

Non-Juice?

What do Tugboat, IRS, Undertaker, Mountie, Big Josh, Big BM, Mr. Hughes, Bushwhackers, etc all have in common? They all wrestle fully clothed. Is it just a coincidence that none of these wrestlers appear to be chronic steroid abusers? Perhaps this is a good way to determine who is juiced up and who isn't.

Vic Stanley
Lafayette, IN

Random Clash Meanderings

Hey! Let's talk Clash 15...Lady Blossom is a big improvement over Vivacious Veronica (if you know what I mean and I think you do)...How about that Rogaine commercial they played a couple of times during the show? If I hadn't previously known it was a hair loss treatment thing, I would have sworn it was some sort of feminine product....Speaking of hair, Zinger's fiancée Sandy was worried that Missy's hair extensions might get caught in the ropes and fall out during her "save" of her "man". Ric Flair's is looking better now that he is trying not to look like a 17 year old rap guy. And does Kevin Sullivan look stupid or what? He's got more spray in his hair than Sandy uses in a month! (Okay, okay, maybe not a month.)...Paul E.'s Danger Zone was one of his best! However, Jason Hervey should pick up pointers on his acting from that "Little Stinger" kid-he was great! Hervey better watch his job on TV's "The Wonder Years", eh?

J.Z. Travis
Woodstock, ONT

RL- Hey Zinger, what is this latest fetish with hair all about?

UIC Pavillion (WCW) Chicago, IL
Correspondent: Steve Sims

June 22, 1991

1) Larry Zbyszko used a spinning neckbreaker to beat Sam Houston in 6:31. First lock up came at 3:00. Dud 2) Oz beat Joey Maggs with a spinning side suplex in 6:14. No rest holds but was still bad. Dud 3) Rick Steiner & Tom Zenk beat Dan Spivey & Stan Hansen in 10:27 when Stan backdropped Zenk over the top rope for the DQ. ** 4) Ron Simmons over One Man Gang via DQ in 12:01, Chairs, chains, and everything else was used but as soon as Sullivan stepped in the ring, the ref called for the bell. ** 5) Lex Luger beat Nikita in a chain match in 11:01. The ref helped in this one as he kicked Nick's hand off the ropes and Lex touched the last corner. Go figure. ** 6) Arn Anderson & Barry Windham beat Sting & Yellow Dog in an elimination bout which was so screwed up you won't be able to follow it. Sting didn't come out until the 5:00 mark because Nikita had hung him in the previous bout. He pinned Arn :21 in but they then had a four way out of the ring and Barry beat the count so he gave it to the heels. The fans weren't told this was an elimination at the card. They were clueless. * 7) Ric Flair beat El Gigante in a mount out as El had the claw on Ric. Time was 5:39. * Horrible. ATT: 1,300 but less paid.